

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00903 091104Z

ACTION ACDA-10

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ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01
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SUBJ: SEABED TREATY REVIEW PREPCOM AND CCD: INFORMAL SOVIET
DEL VIEWS

REF: GENEVA 0871

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT INFORMAL LUNCHEON FEB 8, SOVDEL
THOUGH SEABED TREATY REVIEW PREPCOM WAS PROCEEDING WELL;
INDICATED IT COULD ACCEPT A CONFERENCE COST-SHARE AT 18
PERCENT LEVEL (IRRESPECTIVE OF FORMULA); AND SAID IT WAS
UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY ROMANIAN REP WAS INTERJECTING
OBJECTIONS WHICH HINDERED PREPCOM IN FINALLY RESOLVING
REVIEW CONFERENCE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. REGARDING
CCD, SOVREP HOPED PROGRESS COULD BE MADE ON CW AGREEMENT,
COMMENCING WITH US-USSR AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES; REFERRED
TO CONTINUING SOVIET INTEREST IN MDW AND WHETHER AND WHEN
US EXPERT WOULD PARTICIPATE IN EXPERTS' MEETING; INDICATED
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00903 091104Z

AWARENESS USG PROBLEMS WITH RATIFYING ENMOD TREATY; AND
EXPRESSED KEEN INTEREST IN US VIEWS ON CTB. USDEL
NOTED FACT US POLICIES ON CTB AND CW WERE PRESENTLY
UNDER REVIEW BUT UNDERScored ADMINISTRATION'S INTEREST
IN MOVING FORWARD WITH THESE SUBJECTS AND WITH OTHER
APPROPRIATE ITEMS IN CCD. END SUMMARY.

2. USDEL (US REP PREPCOM, ALTERNATE US REP, AND USMISSION POL/COUNSELOR GRIP) HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR USSR REP LIKHACHEV, DELS TO PREPCOM NAZARKIN AND MAJGEN N.V. PESTEREV ON FEB 8. IN ANSWER TO QUERIES RE HIS REACTION TO PREPCOM PROCEEDINGS, LIKHACHEV WAS PLEASED WITH PROGRESS BEING MADE AND EFFECTIVE CONDUCT OF MEETING BY CHAIRMAN WYZNER, POLISH REP. HE REITERATED AGREEMENT WITH US VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY OF STREAMLINING ORGANIZATION OF SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, EXPRESSED SOME PUZZLEMENT OVER REASONS WHY ROMANIAN REP HAD SEVERAL TIMES INTERPOSED OBJECTIONS AT THE POINTS WHEN PREPCOM APPEARED ALMOST IN AGREEMENT ON SUCH IMPORTANT ISSUES AS NUMBER OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, ORGANIZATION OF GENERAL AND DRAFTING COMMITTEES, AND SIMILAR ISSUES WHOSE RESOLUTION WOULD LARGELY COMPLETE PREPCOM'S TASKS. WHEN USREP OBSERVED THAT COST-SHARING FORMULA FOR REVIEW CONFERENCE SEEMED LIKELY TO BE MOST IMMEDIATE CONTENTIOUS ISSUE, AND NOTED US DESIRE FORMULA TAKE ACCOUNT OF PRINCIPLES REFLECTED BY UN ASSESSMENT SCALE (WITH A MAXIMUM US SHARE OF 25 PERCENT), LIKHACHEV RESPONDED THAT SOVIETS DID NOT BELIEVE CONFERENCE COSTS WOULD BE MAJOR (ALTHOUGH UN SECRETARIAT SHOULD MUCH EARLIER HAVE MADE AVAILABLE CONFERENCE COST ESTIMATE), AND THAT USSR WAS ONLY CONCERNED NOT TO PAY MORE THAN AN 18 PERCENT PRORATA SHARE, IRRESPECTIVE OF FORMULA.

3. TURNING TO IMPENDING CCD MEETING AND NOTING IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00903 091104Z

WAS SOVDEL'S TURN TO HOST PRELIMINARY MEETING OF CO-CHAIRMEN FEB 14, LIKHACHEV EXPRESSED IMPORTANCE FOR USSR OF CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SOVIET AND US CO-CHAIRMEN AND, IN THIS CONNECTION, WARMLY PRAISED PAST RELATIONSHIPS. USREP REPLIED THAT US SHARED THESE VIEWS AND LOOKED FORWARD TO CONTINUATION THIS EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

4. IN ADDRESSING PROBABLE CCD SRPING SESSION SUBJECTS, LIKHACHEV AGREED MOST LIKELY SUBJECTS WOULD BE CTB AND CW. WHEN USREP NOTED THAT ADMINISTRATION HAD ALREADY EXPRESSED INTENTION TO PROCEED WITH RATIFICATION OF TTBT/PNE TREATY AND ITS INTEREST IN MOVING FORWARD WITH THE CTB, BUT THAT SPECIFICS OF LATTER ACTION WERE UNDER URGENT REVIEW WITH USG, LIKHACHEV ACKNOWLEDGED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF GENERAL STATE OF PLAY WITHIN USG WITH NEW ADMINISTRATION LOGICALLY REVIEWING MANY IMPORTANT ISSUES.

5. AS FOR CW, LIKHATCHEV HOPED US AND USSR COULD MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD EFFECTIVE PROHIBITION, BUT, OBSERVING THAT THE CCD WOULD HAVE BEFORE IT SEVERAL DIFFERENT INITIATIVES INCLUDING UK DRAFT TREATY, WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE HELPFUL TO DEVELOP SOVIET AND US AGREEMENT ON BASIC PRINCIPLES OF CW LIMITATION AS A MEANS OF BOTH ASSUMING AN INITIATIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH JULY 1974 SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE AND ALSO MORE EFFECTIVELY COPING WITH VARIOUS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES. USREP NOTED THAT THIS WAS ONE MORE TOPIC FOR REVIEW.

6. SOVREP TOUCHED ONLY BRIEFLY ON BOTH MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW) AND ENMOD TREATY. HE ASKED WHETHER AND WHEN US MIGHT SEND EXPERT TO PARTICIPATE IN CCD DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT, TO WHICH USREP REPLIED WE HAD AS YET NOT REACHED DECISION ON THIS POINT AND PERHPAS IT COULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER AT CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING.
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PAGE 04 GENEVA 00903 091104Z

HE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMB DOBRYNIN AND SECY VANCE ON DIFFICULTIES USG FACES THROUGH LAWSUIT ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT QUESTION, BUT DID NOT SEEM IN SLIGHTEST CONCERNED BY THIS FACT.

7. LUNCHEON ENDED WITH SOV REP'S REITERATION OF IMPORTANCE HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO FIRM AND COOPERATIVE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP AS MEANS ANTICIPATING ANY OTHER POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR ORGANIZATION OR STRUCTURING OF CCD AND ANY FUTURE PROPOSALS WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED ON THIS QUESTION ANTICIPATORY TO SPECIAL SESSION OF UN ON DISARMAMENT IN 1978. CATTO

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